

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

INFORMATION REPORT

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50X1-HUM

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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SUBJECT Trinec Iron Works

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1. Dichler [] is now the assistant head of the Research Department at the Trinec Iron Works. He is an intense Communist. Steiner, the former General Manager, has been moved to Vitkovice to fill the same post.
2. Experiments are being conducted at Trinec in the use of pure oxygen and oxygen in mixture* in place of air for the blast furnaces. The same experiments are being carried out on Siemens Martin furnaces used at steel foundries, but nowhere are these trials being put into practical use.
3. As the result of a sieve test on Krivoi Boz ore, it was proved that 54 per cent of the ore was below 8 mm. At Trinec, all ore below 10 mm has to be sintered. Lack of a sintering plant is to be remedied by the erection of a new unit which [] will be working by the end of 1949. The new sintering plant should bring the present production of a new blast furnace of 600 tons of pig iron a day up to 1,000 - 1,500 tons per day.
4. Of the two steel plants fitted with Siemens Martin furnaces, the first furnace has no available room for expansion while the second furnace is now being enlarged. In addition to this expansion, construction on a new blast furnace is to be started in the fall of 1949.

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Comment : [] the proposed use of oxygen in blast furnaces would account for the new oxygen plant under construction in Vitkovice.

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